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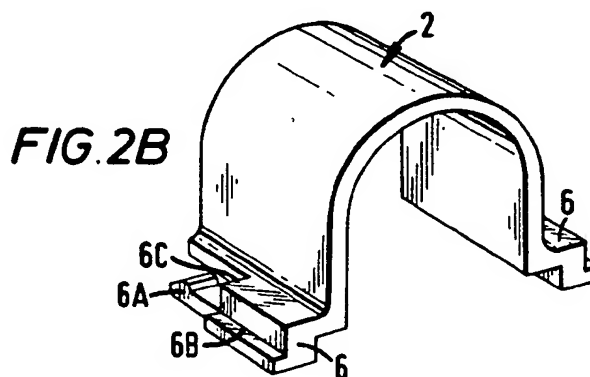
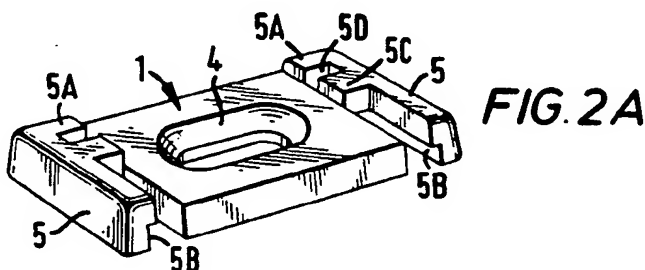
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E2A

(54) Clips for securing a length of conduit in place

(57) A clip for securing a length of conduit in place, the clip includes a first part (1) that is for mounting on a support and a second part (2) that is for embracing a conduit. The second part is able to be releasably snap-fitted into position on the first part by means of a sliding movement of the second part into the first part in a direction substantially parallel to the intended line of conduit that is to be embraced by the second part.



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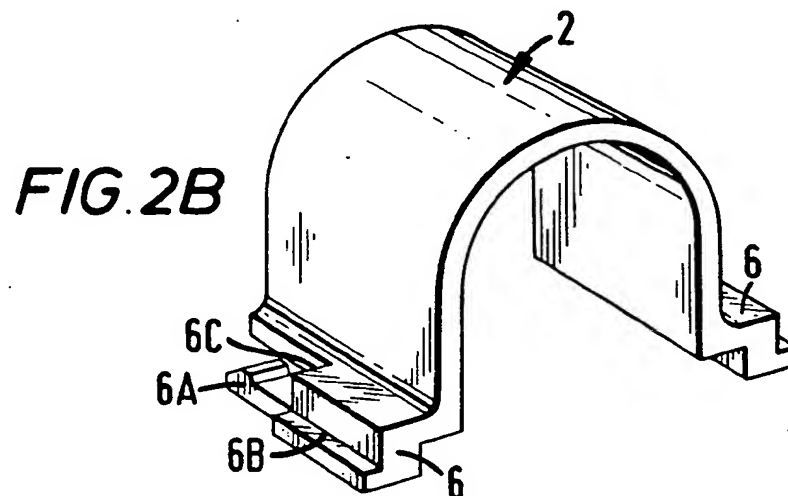
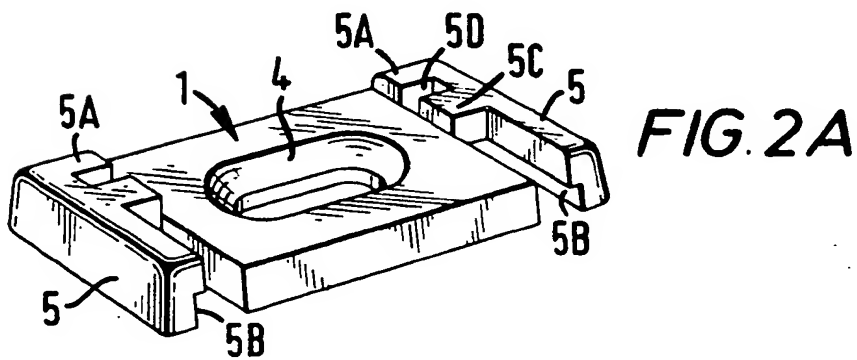
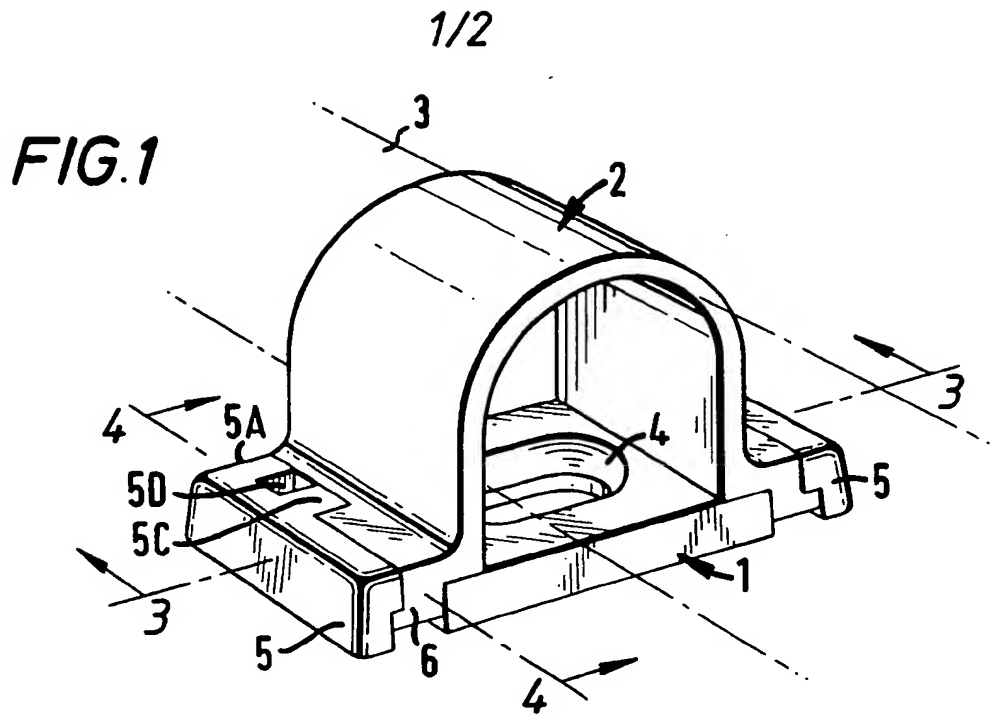


FIG. 3

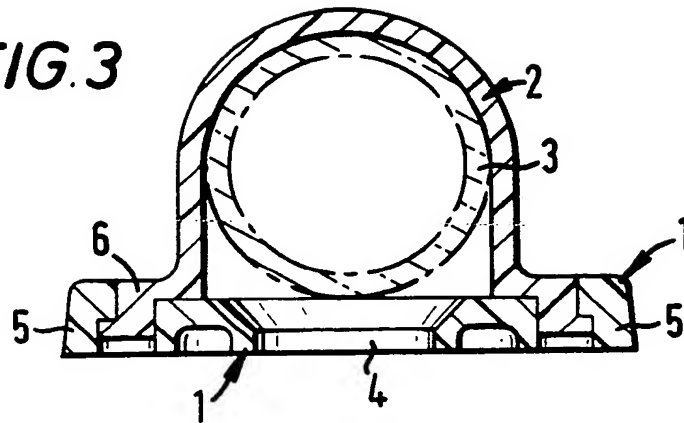
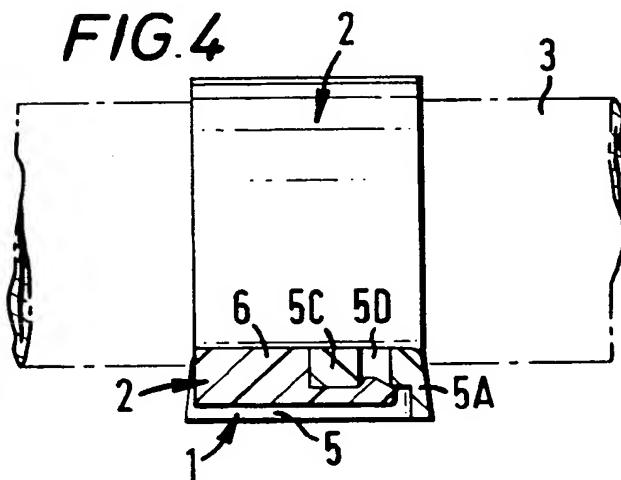


FIG. 4



SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to clips for securing a length of conduit in place

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This invention relates to a clip for securing a length of conduit in place.

Known clips for securing in place conduit such as conduit carrying electric cabling include the type comprising a single-piece saddle for embracing the conduit, the saddle having a screwhole at both ends so that it can be screwed onto a support such as a wall. It is sometimes necessary, however, to remove the conduit from its saddle fixing. If the conduit is then to be replaced, it is not always convenient or practical to screw the saddle back again, particularly if the unscrewing of the saddle has damaged the wall. Perhaps for the same reasons, it may be inconvenient or impractical to use a saddle clip requiring the use of two screws.

According to the present invention, there is provided a clip for securing a length of conduit in place, the clip having a first part that is for mounting on a support and a second part that is for embracing a conduit, said second part being able to be releasably snap-fitted into position on said first part by means of a sliding movement of said second part into said first part in a direction substantially parallel to the intended line of conduit that is to be embraced by said second part.

For a better understanding of the invention and to show how the same may be carried into effect, reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a clip for securing a length of conduit in place, the clip being shown in an assembled condition,

Figures 2A and 2B show the clip in a condition before assembly, *Fig. 2A* showing a base part of the clip and *Fig. 2B* showing the part which is to embrace a conduit,

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 3-3 in *Fig. 1* and shows a conduit in place, and

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 4-4 in *Fig. 1*.

Referring to the drawings, the clip has a first part 1 which is a base for mounting on a support such as a flat wall or machinery cabinet. The clip also has a second part 2 that is for embracing a conduit 3, the part 2 being able to be snap-fitted into position on the part 1.

The part 1 is substantially in the form of a bar having a rectangular, central portion with a chamfered slot 4 into which a single screw can be countersunk to secure the part 1 on its support. Each end of the bar is provided with a securing portion 5 which, with a complementary securing portion 6 on the part 2, enables the part 2 to be snap-fitted onto the

part 1, the portions 5 and 6 being intended to lie either side of the conduit and the portions 5 being mirror images of one another and the portions 6 being mirror images of one another.

More particularly, the portions 5 are in the form of fingers which each have the same longitudinal extent as the width of the central portion of the part 1, each finger being joined at one end 5A to the central portion of the part 1 and extending spaced from and substantially parallel to the ends of the central portion of the part 1. Each portion 5 has an undercut 5B running from its free end as far as its point of joining to the central portion of the part 1 at the end 5A. Intermediate the end of each portion 5 and nearer to the end 5A is an inwardly-extending bridge 5C which reaches as far as the central portion of the part 1 and defines with the end portion 5A a slot 5D extending from the undercut 5B to the top of the portion 5.

Each portion 6 of the saddle part 2 is designed to be a sliding fit inside the portions 5 of the part 1 until a tongue 6A of each portion 6 is forced under the portion 5C and into associated slot 5D, thereby to form the snap-fit connection between the two parts. The portions 6A are bevelled to facilitate the inter-engagement of the two parts. Ledges 6B mate with the corresponding surfaces of the undercuts 5B and, as can be seen in *Fig. 1*, once the two parts are assembled, a shoulder 6C abuts the bridge 5C, thereby also serving to achieve a secure and rigid connection between the two parts.

In use, the part 1 is screwed to its support, the conduit 3 is then offered into position and the saddle part 2 is slid along the conduit and snap-fitted into the part 1. The part 2 can be disengaged from the part 1 by depressing the tongues 6A in the slots 5D by a tool such as a screwdriver, thereby allowing the part 2 to be slid away from the part 1. It will be appreciated that this obviates the need to unscrew the part 1 from its support, thereby preventing possible damage to the support. After the conduit has been replaced, it is an easy task to reengage the part 2 with the part 1.

The clip parts 1 and 2 can each be a plastics moulding.

CLAIMS

1. A clip for securing a length of conduit in place, the clip having a first part that is for mounting on a support and a second part that is for embracing a conduit, said second part being able to be releasably snap-fitted into position on said first part by means of a sliding movement of said second part into said first part in a direction substantially parallel to the intended line of conduit that is to be embraced by said second part.

2. A clip as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first part is substantially in the form of a

bar having a rectangular, central portion with a chamfered slot into which a single screw can be countersunk to secure said first part on its support.

- 5 3. A clip as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
wherein said first part has two opposed se-
curing portions which, with corresponding
complementary opposed securing portions on
said second part, enable said second part to
10 be snap-fitted onto said first part, said secur-
ing portions being intended to lie either side
of the conduit and said portions on said first
part being mirror images of one another and
said portions on said second part being mirror
15 images of one another.

4. A clip as claimed in claim 3, wherein
said portions on said first part are in the form
of fingers each with an undercut running from
a free end thereof, into respective ones of
20 which an associated one of said securing por-
tions of said second part can engage.

5. A clip as claimed in claim 3 or 4,
wherein each of said securing portions of said
second part has a tongue which can be forced
25 into and engage an associated slot provided in
said first part, thereby to form the snap-fit
connection between the two parts.

6. A clip as claimed in claim 5, wherein
said first part is shaped to provide access to
30 said tongues of said second part when they
are snap-fitted in said first part, thereby to
enable said second part to be released from
said first part by means of a tool.

7. A clip for securing a length of conduit in
35 place, substantially as hereinbefore described,
with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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